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Agenda item 153

Requests for observer status in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mamadou Moustapha **Loum** (Senegal)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Requests for observer status in the General Assembly" was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly at the request of Liechtenstein.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 5th, 10th and 20th meetings, on 16 and 25 October and on 6 November 2006. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/61/SR.5, 10 and 20).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 11 May 2006 from the representative of Saudi Arabia to the Secretary-General (A/61/141);

(b) Letter dated 8 September 2006 from the representative of Liechtenstein to the Secretary-General (A/61/232);

(c) Letter dated 14 September 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Mauritius to the Secretary-General (A/61/487);

(d) Letter dated 9 October 2006 from the representative of the Philippines to the Secretary-General (A/61/510).

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II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.6/61/L.3

5. At the 5th meeting, on 16 October, the representative of Saudi Arabia, on behalf of Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen, subsequently joined by Mali and Morocco, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the OPEC Fund for International Development in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/61/L.3).

6. At its 10th meeting, on 25 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/61/L.3 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.6/61/L.2

7. At the 5th meeting, on 16 October, the representative of Mauritius, on behalf of the Comoros, France, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles, subsequently joined by Bangladesh, Barbados, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Fiji, Gabon, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Ireland, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Nepal, the Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Swaziland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the Indian Ocean Commission in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/61/L.2).

8. At its 10th meeting, on 25 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/61/L.2 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.6/61/L.4

9. At the 5th meeting, on 16 October, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, France, Indonesia, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet Nam, subsequently joined by Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/61/L.4).

10. At its 10th meeting, on 25 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/61/L.4 without a vote (see para. 11, draft resolution III).

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III. Recommendations of the Sixth Committee

11. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Observer status for the OPEC Fund for International Development in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the OPEC Fund for International Development,

1. *Decides* to invite the OPEC Fund for International Development to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

Draft resolution II

Observer status for the Indian Ocean Commission in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Indian Ocean Commission,

1. *Decides* to invite the Indian Ocean Commission to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

Draft resolution III

Observer status for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,

1. *Decides* to invite the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.